A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello, Friends of Music at Emory!

I am thrilled to be able to greet you via our wonderful newsletter, revived after many years by Jeff Young, our vice president for communication. As you will read, Jeff has launched several imaginative and ambitious initiatives.

Our Department of Music secretary, Martha Shockey, also helped with the newsletter, as she does with just about everything that the Friends do. She is indispensable, and we thank her very much.

At the annual party at the end of March, you elected me your new president. I feel deeply honored to be asked to follow an extraordinary group of leaders, most recently Ray DuVarney, whom I wish to thank, on all our members’ behalf, for his five years of faithful and devoted service. Since I joined the Friends’ board, some 12 years ago, I have been inspired by the excellent leadership of our past presidents: Ray, Mary Emma McConaughey, and Allen Garrison.

One of my first tasks as president was a sad one: writing a letter of condolence to Herb Karp’s widow. Herb was a founding member of the Friends and also served as president. We also have had to say a painful goodbye to another cherished member of our board, James Hund, who passed away in September 2015. Jim helped found the Friends organization and continued as an active member of the executive board until 2015. We also lost Frank Lindauer, another generous member.

On a more cheerful note, I was happy to pass the baton of hospitality chair — which I had held since joining the board — to a most capable new organizer of our social events, Lilian Bryan. Lilian is a lifelong lover of classical music and a regular patron at Emory music events, so she is pleased to be actively supporting our cause. (It so happens that she is my sister, so I know that she will do a superb job!)

In addition to Lilian, several other outstanding individuals have joined our board as members-at-large: Trent Brunson, Gray Crouse, and Jim Overbeck. I know they will support our mission in many ways.

I will do my best to serve the goals and ideals of the Friends of Music and of the Department of Music. I am so fortunate to be working with brilliant and hard-working executive board members who have great ideas and are committed to getting things done. In addition to Lilian and Jeff, our work is accomplished by officers Carolyn Suwyn, vice president for membership and development; Lynn Hart, secretary; Linwood Keith, treasurer; Mary Emma McConaughey, grants chair; Ray DuVarney, immediate past president; and our at-large members.

As you’ll see in this issue, the Friends have been and will be — up to a variety of exciting activities. I hope you will join us at the many concerts, lectures, performances, receptions, and parties planned for the 2016–2017 academic year.

Don’t forget to renew your membership so you won’t miss out on anything and encourage others to join our mission. Please let me know if you have ideas or requests or other feedback related to our work. This is your organization, so your input is important. I also would love to hear from you if you are interested in volunteering with us.

Sincerely,
Angelika Pohl
President
angelika3@bellsouth.net

FORMER FRIENDS PRESIDENT RECEIVES EMORY AWARD

Congratulations to our own Barbara Hund, recipient of the 2016 Emory Volunteer Award from the Emory Center for Creativity & Arts for her many years of volunteering with the Friends of Music and other contributions to the performing arts at Emory. Barbara is a member of the Friends board and a former president of the Friends of Music Executive Committee. She and her late husband James Hund have lent valuable support to our cause for many years.
**PROFILE: SAM BUDNYK**

Sam Budnyk playing his bass in the Emory University Symphony Orchestra

*Emory Friends of Music is all about helping the Department of Music faculty support students. This article takes a close look at the Emory career of Sam Budnyk, a rising senior who appreciates the benefits he receives from a range of Friends of Music grants.*

Sam Budnyk is pursuing a double major in music (on the composition track, advised by Richard Prior) and comparative literature. Unlike many others whose music co-major is separate from their “day job” studies, Sam’s goal is to craft a career that combines his love of music and world literature in an interdisciplinary way.

For his senior honors thesis, Sam is composing an hour of new music, to include a song cycle for tenor with lyrics from modern poetry, a piece for solo flute, a clarinet-and-string trio, and a chamber opera presenting scenes from a Shakespearean tragedy. Sam is also the principal contrabassist of the Emory University Symphony Orchestra and the Emory Wind Ensemble, and has played in the Jazz Big Band and jazz combos. In addition to studying scores, Sam enjoys reading deep background about composers and musical works. In class, he often shares fascinating details about composer biographies as well as unique characteristics of a piece.

Drawing from both his musical and literary expertise, Sam is assisting Kevin Karnes this summer, researching composer Arvo Pärt in the years immediately after his emigration from Soviet territory to the West. Sam will look at German-language news media to find references to Pärt and reception of his work, as well as West German perceptions of Glasnost and Perestroika as they were announced and being put into place in the Soviet Union.

Also making this summer special is the fact that Sam was selected to perform as a bassist — with other student and professional musicians — in the orchestra of the Eastern Music Festival in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Sam praises Emory’s composition professors, Richard Prior and John Anthony Lennon: “They are a great resource for composition students, providing insights into the creative process, what goes into composing a successful piece of music, and how to get it performed. Recently, the Emory Faculty Composers concert of their works was a fantastic opportunity to hear music by those who have shaped one’s own creative outlook, as they would have it played.” Sam also notes that Emory’s student ensembles are excited when asked to premier new works by the faculty.

Now managing editor of the *Emory Wheel*, Sam has risen through the paper’s ranks. In his current position, he supervises, edits, and teaches student news reporters; writes articles and headlines; and edits the entire paper before it goes to print.

Last winter, Sam was the only music major selected for the Emory delegation attending the United Nations COP21 Climate Change Conference in Paris. He was on hand to observe the many cultural events hosted throughout the city as part of ArtsCOP, which occurred in tandem with the diplomatic conference.

As a result of his accomplishments and service, Sam has been recognized as a Dean’s Music Scholar and a Stipe Fellow for Music. He also received an Emory Scholars Summer Program Award that paid tuition for him to study in Vienna last year in the Emory German department’s summer program.

How does Sam fit all these activities — plus cycling on weekends and a social life — into 24-hour days? To fit in the coursework, he often takes a daunting 26 to 29 credit hours per semester. As an upperclassman, Sam has found professors who support his intellectual curiosity and pursues courses that mainly require reading and writing papers, which has allowed him to juggle the heavy workload. Last semester, these courses included a philosophy graduate seminar on James Joyce’s *Finnegans Wake* and Giambattista Vico’s major works.

We asked Sam to describe a busy day in his schedule last semester. He chose Tuesday, the day when the weekly issue of the *Wheel* is finalized at a meeting that can extend into the wee hours. If you look hard, you can find a little time reserved for sleep:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 am</td>
<td>Awake, reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Editing <em>Wheel</em> articles, reading, composing, homework, catching breakfast on the walk to class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Classes (French, German, music, literature/philosophy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Rehearsals (Wind Ensemble or Orchestra)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Grab a beer during rehearsal break while reading Freud in German for a class</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>More rehearsal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td><em>Wheel</em> production meetings (homework other days until 1:00 a.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 am</td>
<td>Listen to music or pleasure reading while eating the only thing available — a late-night pizza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 am</td>
<td>Lights out</td>
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</tbody>
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Looking to the future, Sam plans to apply to graduate schools in Europe, where he hopes to pursue interdisciplinary studies in original languages — including French, German, Latin, and English — particularly those related to music or aesthetic philosophy.

Meanwhile, we can look forward to Sam’s senior year at Emory in programs supported by Friends of Music grants, particularly those benefiting the ensembles in which he plays. Sam also has received Friends of Music support for lessons. We wish Sam success on his chosen path.
BACKSTAGE SPOTLIGHT

During the spring semester, our Backstage with Emory Music program invited Friends of Music members to attend a number of classes. These included the day that a guest trumpeter/composer of the U.S. Marine Band visited the Wind Ensemble, a voice master class, a jazz master class, open rehearsals, and visits of the Vega Quartet to classes in Viennese culture, disaster public policy, and music composition.

Of particular interest was a tour of the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library. The Rose Library, on the top floor of the Woodruff Library, holds priceless collections of original manuscripts, from personal papers of famous authors to original medieval musical texts. On March 14, Lynn Bertrand, professor of music history and director of graduate studies, graciously invited the Friends of Music to join her class for a special viewing of original music manuscripts and facsimiles in the Rose Library. Bertrand explained the significance of the texts, pointed out many colorful illustrations, and allowed attendees to browse through the pages of texts and scores containing the notes of Stravinsky, Mozart, and others.

AFTER THE LAST NOTE SOUNDED: RECEPTIONS

Faculty Composers Concert

The Friends of Music sponsored a reception after the Faculty Composers Concert on February 23, providing the audience a welcome opportunity to talk with the composers Richard Prior and John Anthony Lennon about their works. The Vega Quartet performed Prior’s String Quartet No. 1 and his exhilarating and meditative String Quartet No. 2, dedicated to William Ransom. Flutist Jonathan Keeble with Elizabeth Pridgen, piano, performed Prior’s duet icarus. Keiko Ransom played Lennon’s piano solo Death Angel, and an ensemble of Keeble; Pridgen; Jeffrey Brooks, clarinet; Scott Pollard, percussion; Jessica Wu, violin; and Guang Wang, cello, concluded the program with Lennon’s beautiful but unsettling piece Red Scimitar under the baton of Prior.

Emory University Symphony Orchestra and University Chorus

The Friends of Music also provided a reception after a memorable musical event on Saturday evening, April 16. The concert began with the orchestra, under the direction of Richard Prior, playing a soaring, cathartic rendition of Barber’s Adagio for Strings. Next, the University Chorus, directed by Eric Nelson, performed a moving piece, Gawthrop’s Sing Me to Heaven. In the night’s major work, Nelson conducted the combined forces in the nine movements of Durufle’s magnificent Requiem. After the concert, singers, musicians, and thrilled patrons buzzed about the concert.
The upcoming 2016–2017 academic year is proving to be another outstanding one of performances, student and faculty research activity, master classes, and ongoing work in our classes, studios, and ensembles. We are grateful to the Friends of Music for supporting a wide range of curricular requirements and enhancements for music students.

Each year Friends of Music awards grants to students to subsidize private study on an instrument, assist with fees for accompanists and other performers for solo honors recitals, and fund student research opportunities abroad.

Last year we hosted Robin Rice in voice master classes and Leopold Erice in piano master classes, both supported by grants from the Friends of Music. This year we will again host master classes in voice and piano by Julia Faulkner and pianist Eugene Skovorodnikov. Of particular note is the Friends of Music support of the inaugural Emory University Young Artist Piano Competition, which will bring precollege pianists to Emory for a day of competition and a final winners concert. The Friends of Music regularly provide funding for lectures by historical musicology scholars, as well as classes and performances by visiting composers. This year Evan Cortens will give a lecture in Steven Crist’s Baroque music class focusing on 18th-century German music. Support for student-composer interaction includes a one-day symposium of guest composer master classes presented as part of the 2016 Atlanta Music Festival.

On behalf of all the faculty and students in the Department of Music, we thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you at a Backstage at Emory event.

Deborah Slover
Chair, Department of Music

ANNUAL PARTY AND STUDENT AWARDS

Gathering in the festive atmosphere of the Michael C. Carlos Reception Hall of the Carlos Museum, Friends of Music celebrated our support of Emory music at the annual cocktail party on March 28, 2016. Members and friends enjoyed good food and drink, applauded Emory music students who received special awards, and conducted a brief annual business meeting.

Deborah Slover, music department chair, reported on recent developments. Ray DuVarney, outgoing president of the board, conducted the meeting and reflected on his service, which everyone greatly appreciates. Angelika Pohl formally took over the reins from Ray.

Musical guests included the Emory Chamber Winds, under the direction of Paul Bhasin, piano soloist Casey Costello, and the Stageworks Singers, directed by Bradley Howard and accompanied by Patricia Dinkins-Matthews. Their beautiful sounds filled the hall and left everyone ready for more.

Jane Alexander presented the From the Heart Award to trombonist Kevin Williams in recognition of his service to the community. Kevin, a music/premed major and Woodruff Scholar, was also a 2015 Scholarship and Service Fellow. In this program, he played his trombone for hospice patients. The From the Heart Award has been made possible through the generosity of Jane and Wayne Alexander.

Ray DuVarney presented the Graduating Senior Award to Naomi Newton and the Rising Senior Award to Samantha Frischling. Naomi received the Rising Senior Award last year. Planning to go to medical school and specialize in pediatrics, Naomi is also active in voice programs at Emory and has done cutting-edge honors research in music. Samantha majors in music and psychology and is the winner of numerous contests and awards, including being named the 2015 Atlanta Symphony Chorus Robert Shaw Memorial Outstanding Singer.

Emory Friends of Music expresses great appreciation to Angelika Pohl, Lilian Bryan, and Martha Shockey for organizing the event. Additional photos from the annual event may be viewed at http://smu.gs/1pzoJf1.